

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8, 10-13, 15, 17-22, 24-32, 34-44 and 46-51 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 9, 14, 16, 23, 33 and 45 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 15, 17-20, 24, 34, 41, 44, 46, 47 and 56 have been amended.

§ 112 Rejection

Claims 1-44 and 46-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1, 15, 24, 34, 44, and 47 have been amended to clarify that the antenna comprises a single actuator. Claims 9, 14, 33, 46 and 56 have either been amended to recite a single actuator (46 and 56) or have been cancelled (9, 14 and 33). Therefore, the § 112 rejection is believed to be overcome.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 6, 8-10, 14-16, 20, 22-24, 30, 32-36, 41, 47, 48 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,804,971 to Bruns et al. ("Bruns"). Bruns discloses a plurality of wires 28a, 28b, 28c secured to a feedhorn 27 and extending through a reflecting surface 11 to an anchor point behind the reflecting surface 11. A turnbuckle 32 is provided on each wire 28a, 28b, 28c in order to adjust the tension on the wire, thus, altering the location of the feedhorn 27. Each turnbuckle 32 is placed in a different location.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that self-pointing antenna comprises a "single actuator." The single actuator is coupled to the pair of support struts and operates on both struts.

Unlike Bruns, an operator need not move from turnbuckle to turnbuckle in order to adjust the

feedhorn; the operator can adjust both wires at a single location. Claim 1 is, thus, now believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claims 6 and 8 are dependent on claim 1 and include all of the limitations of claim 1. Thus, for the reasons stated above with reference to claim 1, claims 6 and 8 are believed to be allowable. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Claim 10 was also rejected as being anticipated by Bruns. As stated above, Bruns discloses a plurality of wires secured to the feedhorn and extending through the reflecting surface to an anchor point behind the antenna. A turnbuckle 32 is provided on each wire in order to adjust the tension on the wire.

Claim 10 is a method claim directed to self-directing a main beam axis of an antenna structure. Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the step of adjusting an effective length of said support struts is accomplished by a single actuator. As stated above, Bruns discloses an actuator for each strut placed in separate locations and, for the reasons mentioned with respect to claim 1, claim 10 is believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 14 has been cancelled.

Claim 15 was also rejected as being anticipated by Bruns. Claim 15 has been amended to recite that the adjusting means is a single actuator. For the reasons stated above with reference to claim 1, the Applicants believe that this overcomes the rejection.

Claims 16 and 23 have been cancelled.

Claims 20 and 22 are ultimately dependent on claim 15 and, thus, are also believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 24 was rejected as being anticipated by Bruns. Claim 24 has been amended to recite that self-pointing antenna comprises a single actuator. Thus, for the reasons stated above with reference to claim 1, claim 24 is now believed to be allowable.

Claims 30 and 32 are ultimately dependent on claim 24 and, thus, are also believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claims 33 has been cancelled.

Claim 34 stands rejected as being anticipated by Bruns. Claim 34 has been amended to recite that the self-pointing antenna comprises a single actuator. As stated above with reference to claim 1, Bruns does not disclose an actuator in a single location. For this reason, claim 34 is now believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claims 35 and 36 are dependent on claim 34 and, thus, are also believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 41 is also dependent on claim 34 and has been amended to recite that said single actuator is mounted to said actuator and at least two of said support struts. Therefore, claim 41 is believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 47 was also rejected as being anticipated by Bruns. Claim 47 has been amended to recite that the adjusting means is a single actuator. Thus, for the reasons stated above with reference to claim 1, claim 47 is believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 48 is dependent on claim 47 and, thus, is also believed to be allowable over Bruns.

Claim 56 is also dependent on claim 47 and has been amended to recite that the single actuator is mounted to the reflector and to at least two of the support struts. For these reasons, claim 56 is also believed to be allowable.

Claims 34, 41, 44-9 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,553,731 to Szirtes ("Szirtes"). Szirtes is directed to an antenna system having multiple guy wires 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 attached to a subreflector 13. The multiple guy wires 22-26 each have a separate turnbuckle 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36. The turnbuckles 31-36 are all located in separate locations.

As stated above, claim 34 has been amended to claim a single actuator. Since Szirtes is similar to Bruns in that it requires the use of actuators in multiple places, claim 34 is believed to be allowable over Szirtes for the same reasons it is allowable over Bruns.

Claim 41 has been cancelled.

Claim 44 was rejected as being anticipated by Szirtes. Claim 44 has been amended to include the limitation that the adjusting comprises mounting a single actuator to said one of a feed and a sub-reflector. As stated above with reference to claim 34, Szirtes discloses only the use of multiple actuators. Thus, claim 44 is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 46 is dependent on claim 44 and, thus, is now also believed to be allowable over Szirtes.

Claim 47 was rejected as being anticipated by Szirtes. Claim 47 has been amended to recite that the adjusting means is a single actuator. Thus, for the reasons stated above with reference to claim 34, claim 47 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 48, 49 and 56 are dependent on claim 47 and, thus, are now believed to be allowable over Szirtes.

Claims 47-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,874,925 to Choi ("Choi"). Choi recites a case 100 which includes a means 120 for adjusting the elevation angle of a feed horn. Claim 47 includes a single actuator that is capable of adjusting either/or both the azimuthal and elevation angle. Choi only discloses adjusting the elevation and, in fact, discloses a system in which the case 100 is prevented from moving side to side and, thus, the azimuthal angle cannot be changed. Choi, column 2, lines 60-62. Therefore, for at least this reason, claim 47 is believed to be allowable over Choi.

Claims 48-55 are dependent on claim 47 and, thus, are also now believed to be allowable over Choi.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 2-5, 7, 11-13, 17-19, 21, 25-29 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruns in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,350,037 to Adams ("Adams"). Adams is directed to moving a mirror to enable a driver of a car to view their "blind spot." As stated in the prior response, Adams is nonanalogous art. It is well-settled that to be analogous art, the "reference must either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was concerned." *In re Oeticker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1446 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Adams does not meet either of these requirements. The present invention is directed to self-pointing antennas, not car mirrors. Also, Adams is directed to the problem of a driver being unable to use a conventional mirror to see his or her "blind spot." The present invention is directed to easily enabling a user to adjust the location of a feed horn relative to an antenna.

Even if Adams is considered to be analogous art, there still is no motivation to combine Adams with Bruns. Neither reference provides any suggestion or teaching that an inventor should look to the other. The only motivation to combine the two references is supplied by the present reference. *See* page 6, lines 4-10. The Examiner is improperly using hindsight by using the present invention as a road map of the prior art.

Thus, claims 2-5, 7, 11-13, 17-19, 21, 25-29 and 31 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 37-40, 42 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruns in view of Choi. Claims 37-40, 42 and 43 are ultimately dependent on claim 34 and, therefore, include the limitations of: a) a single actuator; b) having support struts; and c) the actuator adjusting either/or both the beam elevation and azimuth of a main beam axis of the antenna. As stated above, Choi discloses driven gears for adjusting only the elevation angle of the feed horn. Choi does not disclose a two-axis motorized carriage. In fact, Choi expressly teaches against using the motorized carriage for adjusting the azimuthal direction of the feed horn by disclosing use of an elastic hook 103 at each end to prevent the LNB case 100 from moving from side to side. Choi, column 2, lines 60-62. Therefore, since Bruns also does not disclose a two-axis motorized carriage, claims 37-40, 42 and 43 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

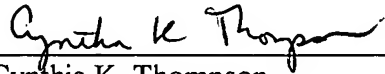
It is the Applicants' belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and action towards that effect is respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/052,963
Amendment After Final dated October 28, 2003
Reply to final Office Action dated September 9, 2003

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview,
the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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